

CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A programming interface embodied on one or more computer readable storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

generating graphical objects using a first group of services, wherein the first group of services includes a service that customizes a behavior of the graphical objects to style and/or theme the graphical objects, the service including interfaces for controlling a behavior of a menu item, for controlling a visibility behavior of a scroll bar, and for controlling selection behavior of a listbox;

formatting content using a second group of services, wherein the second group of services arranges the graphical objects;

creating components of the graphical objects using a third group of services;

binding elements to data sources, data source classes, and data specific implementations of data collections using a fourth group of services, wherein the fourth group of services further handle exceptions in data entry;

providing a plurality of media classes using a fifth group of services, the media classes enabling image effects to be applied to portions of images and coordinating a set of animations with a set of timelines;

providing classes using a sixth group of services that enable editing of forms and text, formatting data, and cross-process data sharing;

instantiating an input manager using a seventh group of services, the input manager coordinating inputs received by the system;

providing a set of classes and services using an eighth group of services that allow building of applications with navigation paradigms;

providing a set of classes using a ninth group of services that support accessibility and user interface automation;

providing a parser using a tenth group of services that can load or save a hierarchy of objects from or to an XML or binary file and set properties associated with objects and event handlers;

providing a set of classes using an eleventh group of services that enable interoperability with other operating systems or computer platforms;

providing an element using a twelfth group of services that allows an application to host a form control operation;

using a common markup language to map classes and properties specified in the markup language to an instantiated tree of objects across the first groups of services, ~~the second group of services the third group of services, and the fourth group of services;~~ and

integrating the first groups of services, ~~the second group of services the third group of services, and the fourth group of services~~ using a consistent programming model and consistent services across the ~~four~~-service groups.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. **(Currently Amended)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first groups of services, ~~the second group of services the third group of services, and the fourth group of services~~ share a common event system.

5. **(Currently Amended)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first groups of services, ~~the second group of services the third group of services, and the fourth group of services~~ share a common property definition system.

6. **(Currently Amended)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first groups of services, ~~the second group of services the third group of services, and the fourth group of services~~ share a common input paradigm.

7. **(Currently Amended)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first groups of services, ~~the second group of services the third group of services, and the fourth group of services~~ share a common system for nesting elements associated with a particular group of services within elements associated with another group of services.

8. **(Original)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first group of services includes a service that determines an appearance of the graphical objects.

9. **(Canceled)**

10. **(Original)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first group of services includes a service that determines an arrangement of the graphical objects.

11. **(Original)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first group of services includes a plurality of nested elements that define the graphical objects.

12. **(Original)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the graphical objects are comprised of one or more elements defined by vector graphics.

13. **(Original)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first group of services can define window properties in a markup language without launching a new window.

14. **(Original)** A programming interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the first group of services generate a user interface containing a plurality of graphical objects.

15. **(Canceled)**

16. **(Original)** A software architecture comprising the programming interface as recited in claim 1.

17. (Currently Amended) An application program interface embodied on one or more computer readable storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

generating graphical objects using a first group of services, wherein the first group of services includes a service that customizes a behavior of the graphical objects to style and/or theme the graphical objects, the service including interfaces for controlling a behavior of a menu item, for controlling a visibility behavior of a scroll bar, and for controlling selection behavior of a listbox;

formatting content using a second group of services, wherein the second group of services arranges the graphical objects;

creating components of the graphical objects using a third group of services;

binding elements to data sources, data source classes, and data specific implementations of data collections using a fourth group of services, wherein the fourth group of services further handle exceptions in data entry; and

at least one of:

providing a plurality of media classes using a fifth group of services, the media classes enabling image effects to be applied to portions of images and coordinating a set of animations with a set of timelines;

providing classes using a sixth group of services that enable editing of forms and text, formatting data, and cross-process data sharing;

instantiating an input manager using a seventh group of services, the input manager coordinating inputs received by the system;

providing a set of classes and services using an eighth group of services

that allow building of applications with navigation paradigms;

providing a set of classes using a ninth group of services that support accessibility and user interface automation;

providing a parser using a tenth group of services that can load or save a hierarchy of objects from or to an XML or binary file and set properties associated with objects and event handlers;

providing a set of classes using an eleventh group of services that enable interoperability with other operating systems or computer platforms; and

providing an element using a twelfth group of services that allows an application to host a form control operation.

wherein the ~~first groups~~ of services, ~~the second group of services~~ ~~the third group of services~~, and ~~the fourth group of services~~ are integrated via:

sharing a common programming model; and

using a common markup language across the ~~three~~ services to map classes and properties specified in the markup language to an instantiated tree of objects.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) An application program interface as recited in claim 17, wherein the third group of services includes services to generate geometric shapes.

20. (Original) An application program interface as recited in claim 17, wherein the second group of services includes arranging a plurality of data elements.

21. (Previously Presented) An application program interface as recited in claim 17, wherein the first group of services includes:

a service that determines an appearance of a graphical object.

22. (Original) An application program interface as recited in claim 17, wherein the first group of services includes a service that defines window properties in a markup language without launching a new window.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer system including one or more microprocessors and one or more software programs, the one or more software programs utilizing a programming interface to request services from an operating system, the programming interface including separate commands to request services consisting of the following groups of services:

a first group of services for generating graphical objects, wherein the first group of services includes a service that customizes a behavior of the graphical objects to style and/or theme the graphical objects, the service including interfaces for controlling a behavior of a menu item, for controlling a visibility behavior of a scroll bar, and for controlling selection behavior of a listbox;

a second group of services for formatting content, wherein the second group of services arranges the graphical objects;

a third group of services for creating components of the graphical objects; and

a fourth group of services that bind elements to data sources, data source

classes, and data specific implementations of data collections, wherein the fourth group of services further handle exceptions in data entry; and

at least one of:

a fifth group of services for providing a plurality of media classes that enable image effects to be applied to portions of images and coordinate a set of animations with a set of timelines;

a sixth group of services for providing classes that enable editing of forms and text, formatting data, and cross-process data sharing;

a seventh group of services for instantiating an input manager that coordinates inputs received by the system;

an eighth group of services for providing a set of classes and services that allow building of applications with navigation paradigms;

a ninth group of services for providing a set of classes that support accessibility and user interface automation;

a tenth group of services for providing a parser that can load or save a hierarchy of objects from or to an XML or binary file and that sets properties associated with objects and event handlers;

an eleventh group of services for providing a set of classes that enable interoperability with other operating systems or computer platforms; and

a twelfth group of services for providing an element that allows an application to host a form control operation,

wherein the first groups of services, the second group of services, and the third group of services are integrated by sharing a common programming model, consistent

services and using a common markup language to map classes and properties specified in the markup language to an instantiated tree of objects across the ~~first, second, and third groups~~ of services.

24. (Previously Presented) A computer system as recited in claim 23, wherein the first group of services includes:

a service for defining an appearance of the graphical objects.

25. (Previously Presented) A computer system as recited in claim 23, wherein the third group of services includes services to generate a plurality of geometric shapes.

26 - 34. (Canceled)